

## THE NEGRO IN THE METROPOLIS.

## The Results of the Census—A View of the Colored Population of this City—How They Live and What They Do—The Increase of the Blacks—Their Probable Extinction—The Property They Own—How Many Legal Voters Among Them—Intermarriages Between Whites and Blacks.

The returns of the recent census have been carefully examined to arrive at the facts bearing upon our colored population. The negro question is one that must be met, one that the American mind must fully comprehend in all its bearings, in order that it may be finally disposed of, and the progress of the country no longer retarded or its perpetuity endangered by the wild and visionary schemes of the abolitionists. A careful study of the following statistics bearing upon the colored population of our city cannot but tend to open the eyes of those who have thought that freedom was the best for the negro race. True philanthropy demands that we should assign to the negro that position for which nature, or nature's God, intended him, which is one of servitude. His best and surest happiness is secured only in a state of slavery, under the care and authority of a superior race. How strange and unaccountable is that philanthropy which closes its blinded vision from all the miseries immediately around it, and is delighted only when it views imaginary sufferings in distant communities, or is intermeddling with the affairs properly belonging to the people of other States.

We invite a careful perusal of the following facts revealed by the late census in reference to our colored population. First, we will give the number of colored people in the city ten years ago—

Male	Female	Total
10,762	5,093	15,855

Total number of colored population in 1850—15,855.

The following table will show the number according to the census just taken. We give it by wards, as several rather curious facts will be better commented on by doing so—

## THE COLORED POPULATION OF NEW YORK CITY, 1860.

Ward	Male	Female	Total
1	1,116	65	1,181
2	1,116	65	1,181
3	1,116	65	1,181
4	1,116	65	1,181
5	1,116	65	1,181
6	1,116	65	1,181
7	1,116	65	1,181
8	1,116	65	1,181
9	1,116	65	1,181
10	1,116	65	1,181
11	1,116	65	1,181
12	1,116	65	1,181
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24	1,116	65	1,181
25	1,116	65	1,181
26	1,116	65	1,181
27	1,116	65	1,181
28	1,116	65	1,181
29	1,116	65	1,181
30	1,116	65	1,181

Total colored population in 1860—18,031.

Total colored population in 1850—15,855.

Decrease in ten years—2,176.

An inspection of the above tables shows a decrease in the colored population in a single decade of about 5,000; but it will be observed that this decrease is almost wholly in the blacks. The mulattoes are about the same in number they were ten years ago, and the blacks have fallen of 3,000. It will also be seen that about one-half of the colored population live in the Fifth, Eighth and Fourteenth wards. The Eighth is the banner ward of negroism, and the Fifth the hotbed of amalgamation. About two-thirds of the colored inhabitants of the Fifth ward are mulattoes. It is in this ward that we find eighteen of the thirty-two intermarriages between whites and blacks. Six of these happy couples occupy a single house. The wives are washerwomen, and the husbands play pokemore and attend to domestic duties. It must be an extremely interesting society, and one in which the philosopher of the *Prison* could find to advantage. He could there see the practical results of his theories, and a visit would furnish a text for a sermon to slaveholders of the South.

At this ratio of decrease in the blacks of this city, on the opening of the next century—forty years from this—a pure negro would be a curiosity among us. All that would be left of their race would be found mixed with the blood of the whites. The remnant left would be degraded, depleted, and unfit even for slaves—in a more deplorable condition than the few straggling Indian tribes living in the First ward.

We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the true position of the negro in the United States is one of servitude. As a slave he is happy and contented, as a free man he is miserable and discontented. Labor, in the Northern States, is the property of the white man and woman. Stern necessity is driving the black race from every honorable field of employment among us. The field of labor for the negro is gradually but certainly growing narrower and narrower. Forty years ago negroes carried the hod, were our barbers and shoemakers, and had a variety of occupations that the necessities of the white laborer, native born, Irish and German, have compelled the black man and woman to abandon. Colored society in this city offers a wide field for philosophical reflection: that in the Fifth ward is a perfect brood.

By examining the table of occupations given below we find the great body of the colored population servants or waiters; scarcely a dozen of them are engaged in any of the higher pursuits of life; no mechanics or artists among their number. Take the same number of blacks in any section of the slave States, and you will find a greater number of mechanics than you will among our free negroes.

The following table will show the number of colored persons who own real estate and personal property, and the value of such estate and property. It will be seen that there are only eighty-five out of the 10,000 and over who own real estate. The aggregate value of the real estate owned by these eighty-five persons is \$360,475. In four cases out of the eighty-five the value of the real estate owned by cash is less than \$250, consisting of lots on Long Island and in New Jersey; in ten other cases women are the proprietors. So that, if there were no men or emancipated slaves on this estate or debt chargeable to it, reducing its value below \$250 in the hands of a single owner, there would be about seventy voters among our colored population.

The highest value of the real estate owned by a single individual is \$60,000. This "darker" calls himself more than half white, and he was born in New York. He has been half-breed in his veins some of the best blood of the aristocracy of that State. Still true to the legitimate profession of a negro, he gave his occupation as that of a waiter. The next in order to a cook—who calls himself worth \$50,000. Next comes a "Simon Pure" negro, who calls himself worth \$30,000, who is a waiter also. Then comes a \$20,000 mulatto, which closes the list of colored "gentlemen" who claim to own any considerable amount of real estate. Among the colored ladies there are about half a dozen who claim to own real estate in value from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The balance of the eighty-five who own real estate average from \$250 to \$2,000 each.

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## No. of Persons Value of Personal Property.

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Total colored population in 1860—18,031.

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Decrease in ten years—2,176.

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